What is claimed is:

49. In a process for producing a product using a material which is electrochemically loaded with an isotopic fuel, a method of controlling the loading which includes in combination:

supplying said isotopic fuel to said material,

providing means for loading said isotopic fuel into said material to saturate said material,

then providing means for producing a change in the active quantity of said isotopic fuel within said material,

creating thereby a catastrophic diffusion flux of said isotopic fuel within said material.

- 50. A method as in claim 49 wherein said material is a member of the group consisting of palladium, Groups IVb, Vb, and rare earth elements.
- 51. A method as in claim 49 wherein said second material is a member of the group consisting of deuterium or deuterons.
- 52. In a process using an isotopic fuel loaded into a material, a two-stage method for controlling the loading which includes in combination:

supplying said isotopic fuel to said material,

providing means for loading said isotopic fuel into said material to saturate said material,

then providing means for producing a change in the active quantity of said isotopic fuel within said material, creating thereby a catastrophic diffusion flux of said isotopic fuel within said material.

- 53. A method as in claim 52 wherein said material is a member of the group consisting of palladium, Groups IVb, Vb, and rare earth elements.
- 54. A method as in claim 52 wherein said second material is a member of the group consisting of deuterium or deuterons.

- 55. A method as in claim 52, where the material is loaded electrochemically.
- 56. A method as in claim 52, where the said means to produce a change in the active quantity of said isotopic fuel within said material is by a change in temperature of said material.
- 57. A method as in claim 52, where the additional step is taken of obstructing the diffusion flux of said fuel by a diffusion barrier located within said material.
- 58. A method as in claim 52, where the additional step is taken of removing said product produced.
- 59. A method as in claim 58 wherein said product is heat and said means of removing heat utilizes a member of the group of high thermal conducting devices, including a thermal pipe, a diamond filament, and a polymer filled with diamonds.
- 60. A method as in claim 58 wherein said means of removing said product utilizes an applied magnetic field.
- 61. An apparatus to produce a product using a material loaded with an isotopic fuel, which includes in combination:

means to supply said isotopic fuel to said material,

means to load said isotopic fuel into said material to saturate said material,

means to produce a change in the active quantity of said isotopic fuel within said material,

means thereby to produce a catastrophic diffusion flux of said isotopic fuel within said material.

- 62. An apparatus as in claim 61 wherein the isotopic fuel is a member of the group consisting of deuterium or deuterons.
- 63. An apparatus as in claim 61 wherein said said material is a member of the group consisting of palladium, Groups IVb, Vb, and rare earth elements.

- 64. An apparatus as in claim 61 wherein said means to load said isotopic fuel into said material is electrochemical.
- 65. An apparatus as in claim 61 wherein additional means are provided to obstruct the diffusion flux of said isotopic fuel by a diffusion barrier located within said material.
- 66. An apparatus as in claim 65 wherein said diffusion barriers are multiple and are arranged as alternating layers of diffusion barriers.
- 67. An apparatus as in claim 61 wherein the means produce a change in the active quantity of said isotopic fuel within said material is by a change in temperature.
- 68. An apparatus as in claim 61 which includes a high modulus incompressible structural barrier surrounding said material filled with said isotopic fuel.